



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**DHR Maryland Department of Human Resources**  
*Maryland's Human Services Agency*

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
Thursday, June 21, 2007

### **Maryland Commission for Women Kicks-Off the Verizon Wireless Cell-Phone Collection**

Baltimore – On Wednesday, October 22, 2008 at 4:00 p.m., the Maryland Women's Commission and Verizon Wireless, in partnership with the Women's Commissions throughout the State of Maryland will kick off the Verizon Wireless HopeLine Project Cell-Phone Collection efforts at the House of Ruth 2201 Argonne Drive Baltimore, MD 21218.

The HopeLine Project collects previously owned wireless handsets and accessories to be refurbished, recycled and/or sold. All proceeds from this program benefit victims of domestic violence by providing essential communication tools through the donation of wireless phones and service.

This organization has distributed more than \$5 million in HopeLine cash grants to domestic violence prevention and awareness programs across the country and provided more than 60,000 phones with airtime and other features. In addition, the program has kept more than 200 tons of electronic waste and batteries out of landfills.

In the last four years alone, the Verizon Foundation and the Verizon Wireless HopeLine program have contributed more than \$500,000 to fund domestic violence prevention programs throughout Maryland.

These contributions are the direct results of the many Maryland residents who donated their used phones in local Verizon Wireless stores or in special collections. To be a part of this important effort, contact the Maryland Commission for Women at: 1-877-868-2196.

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The Maryland Department of Human Resources protects the State's vulnerable children and adults and provides temporary economic assistance. DHR strengthens Maryland families and improves communities through its 24 Departments of Social Services, community partnerships and its three administrations: the Social Services Administration, Family Investment Administration, and Child Support Enforcement Administration.

- Martin O'Malley, Governor
- Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor
- Brenda Donald, Secretary